



Literally Speaking...

The Newsletter of the York County Public Library

May/June 2005

SUMMER READING PROGRAM BEGINS JUNE 27

Registration begins June 20 at 10:00 AM at both libraries

FUNtastic Reading is this year's theme for the York County Public Library's Summer Reading Program, which runs from June 27 to August 5. The focus of this program is to keep children reading or being read to over the summer. The Library has a full schedule of fun activities for children ages 2 ½ to 12 designed to keep everyone coming to the Library and reading all summer. Walk, skip, march, or hike to the Library for performers, workshops, story times, movies – and of course, great books! All programs are free and open to everyone.

Participants in the program write down books they have read

or time spent reading in a log. After they have read 5 hours or 5 books, they can come into the library once a week to show us their accomplishments and receive prizes for their efforts. If a child completes the weekly reading for 4 of the 6 weeks of the program, he or she will receive a book.

Weekly performers present programs based on the Summer Reading Program's theme. Storytellers, musicians, puppeteers, and others link entertainment with good reading and books.

Movie Mondays feature a 10:30 AM showing of a children's movie in the Tabb meeting room. There will be no movie on Monday, July

4 because the library is closed.

Terrific Tuesdays will bring a variety of performers to the Library. Wednesdays and Thursdays are full of story times for all ages. Fantastic Fridays features selected workshops and demonstrations. Registration may be limited depending upon the program.

All programs are sponsored by the Friends of the York County Library and the York County Library Foundation. Visit the Youth Services website at <http://www.yorkcounty.gov/children> or call 890-5110 for additional information.

FUN AND LEARNING FOR ALL!

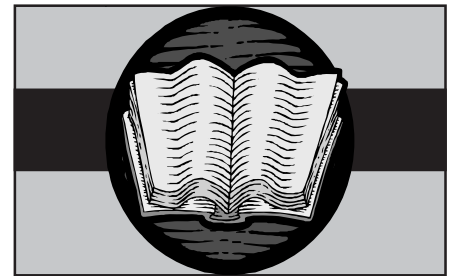
Early Learning Blitz June 4 at Tabb

The Library will host an "Early Learning Blitz" at the Tabb Library on Saturday, June 4, 2005 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The Early Learning Blitz is a series of events held between Mother's Day and Father's Day, which will highlight the importance of early childhood development.

As a complement to Governor Warner's Early Childhood summit, various county agencies will showcase services and resources available for parents and young children. York County Head Start, the York County School Division, York County Fire & Life Safety, the Virginia Health Department, and the York County Public Library will provide displays and

handouts. A limited number of Ident-A-Kid cards will be obtainable from the York County Sheriff's Office. Kidding Around Entertainment will be on hand with balloon animals, and York County Fire & Life Safety will have a fire truck and equipment on site for children to see. Drawings for special prizes will be held throughout the day.

For more information on this program, call the Tabb Library Youth Services Department at 890-5110.



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Pharos computer reservation system coming in June

We are pleased to announce that we will install a new self-service Internet/computer reservation system on all our public computers this June. This new system, called Pharos, will allow people who use the Internet or the word processing computers to make their own reservations. The goal of the new system is to make the reservation process more efficient and equitable for all library patrons.

Library patrons may use the public computers at either branch for a maximum of two hours per day. Just sit down at the computer and log in with your library card number. If all of the computers are being used, go to the Pharos

Reservation Station at our Circulation Desk, log in with your library card number and reserve a computer. The Queue Monitor will indicate which computer you should go to when it's your turn. When a computer is ready for you, just sit down and log in.

Patrons who use our computers will need a valid York County Public Library card in order to place a reservation. Regular users of our computers are being requested to get their library cards now to avoid any delays when the new system is in place.

Pharos also includes a new system for printing which will tell the user how many pages will be printed when a print request is

made. The user can then decide to proceed with the print job or cancel it. A new centralized high-speed laser printer will be installed in the copy rooms at both libraries and will accept cash (one-dollar and five-dollar bills or coins). Should you need to change a larger denomination bill, please see the staff at the Circulation Desk.

Please bear with us as we install and learn how to use this new system. We plan to install Pharos at both libraries June 14 through June 16 and to be fully operational immediately. If you have any questions, please ask the staff at the Adult Services Desk or call the Tabb Library at 890-5120 or the Yorktown Library at 890-5207.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Pharos system

What do I need to use Pharos?

To use Pharos you will need a valid York County Public Library card. You will use your library card barcode (the 14 digit number on the back of your library card beginning with 23146) as your login. Passwords will be required. Visitors and patrons who do not have their card with them can get guest computer passes at the Adult Services desk.

How long can I use a computer?

A maximum of 2 hours per day. A single reservation may not last more than 60 minutes. After your first hour, you may sign up on the same computer or another computer for as long as 60 minutes. If other people are waiting, you can sign up for a second hour at the Pharos Station, but you will go into the queue and you will have to wait your turn.

What if I use up my 2 hours? If computers are not being used, can I sign up for more time?

No, the system will not permit it.

Are there advance reservations over the phone or over the Web?

No, only in person. You can make a reservation for any available time on the same day. However, only one reservation is allowed at a time.

How long will the system hold my reservation?

Advance reservations will be held for 5 minutes, which is included in your total session time for that day. If you are in the queue for the next available computer, the system will hold your reservation for 10 minutes, which is **not** included in your total session time.

Will the system warn me at the end of my time?

Yes, when there are 10 minutes remaining, and a final warning at 2 minutes remaining. There is also a clock icon at the bottom right hand corner of the screen that counts down your session minutes.

How do I print with Pharos?

From the computer, click to print your document as you normally would. Follow the pop-up dialog questions by first entering in your library card number. Confirm your print job by clicking "OK", or clicking "Cancel" if you do not want to print the item.

From the Pharos Station, login using your library card number and choose the "Print a Document" icon from the menu. Select the job you'd like to print from the list by clicking on it. Click "Print" to release the job to the printer for printing,

or click "Delete" to cancel printing. When you have finished printing, press "Log Off" to end your session.

Once a job is selected and released for printing, it cannot be cancelled.

Why are you switching to Pharos? I liked your old system of signing up.

The old system wasn't working for us. There were misunderstandings and confusion over who was signed up where, making it difficult for both patrons and staff. Many patrons would walk away when they saw all of the computers being used, so we weren't serving all of our patrons equally. Also with our honor system of paying for print jobs, we were losing money on both paper and toner.

Will Pharos keep a history of my Internet activity?

This system is not being implemented to track Internet activity. Our version of Pharos does not provide us with information about what Internet sites are being viewed. However, we do continue to expect our patrons to avoid Internet sites that may contain objectionable material. Anyone who violates this agreement will be asked to leave the premises and may have their Internet privileges revoked.

Tiny Tales and Toddler Tales signup begins June 13

Tiny Tales, a program for children ages 6 – 14 months, will be held at Tabb on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM for six weeks beginning on June 29. *Toddler Tales*, for children ages 15-30 months, is offered at Tabb on Wednesday at 10:15 AM and Thursday at 10:15 AM and 11:00 AM. The summer session runs from June 29 to August 4. Registration for both programs will be on Monday, June 13 beginning at 10:00 AM and can be done in person at the Youth Services Desk or by phone at 890-5110.

Summer Drop-In Story Times

Drop-In Story Times for preschoolers ages 2 ½ to 5 will be held at both libraries this summer. The Yorktown story time will be on Wednesday at 10:15 AM in the Yorktown Meeting Room. The Tabb story times are Wednesday at 10:15 AM or 11:15 AM and Thursday at 10:15 AM in the Tabb Meeting Room. The session runs six weeks from June 29 to August 4. No registration is required.



Father's Day Story Time June 18 at Tabb

Come celebrate Father's Day with your favorite man (dads, grandpas, uncles, all are welcome) on Saturday, June 18 at 10:30 AM in the Tabb Library meeting room. Join us for stories, songs, and a craft. Recommended for ages 3 and up. No registration is required. Call 890-5110 for details.

Dial-A-Story lines open for kids

Have Story Time with the Library any time of the day or night! Our Dial-A-Story line has a story for every child 24 hours a day!

Every month, our Youth Services staff records three stories for our young patrons to call and hear. There's a new menu of stories every month—look on our Library Children's Page at <http://www.yorkcounty.gov/children> for the story list for the month!

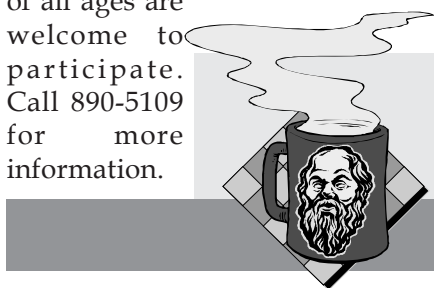
Call our Dial-a-Story line at 890-5111 and enjoy a fun story today!

Calling all teen volunteers!

The Youth Services Department invites teens, ages 13 years and over, to help with the 2005 Summer Reading Program. Applications are available at both the Tabb and Yorktown Youth Services desks and on the web page at www.yorkcounty.gov/children. Applications are due May 28 and must be submitted to the Youth Services staff at the Tabb library. Volunteer duties include registering patrons for the summer program, distributing prizes, assisting with story hour craft preparation, and providing support at special performances. Call 890-5110 for more information.

Socrates Cafe at Tabb May 17

The next session of our acclaimed Socrates Cafe program will meet on Tuesday, May 17 at 7 PM by the fireplace at the Tabb Library. If you like voicing your opinions—and you're unafraid of having your opinions challenged—join us for a lively, spirited session of philosophical inquiry. Patrons of all ages are welcome to participate. Call 890-5109 for more information.



**The Library will be CLOSED Monday, May 30
in observance of Memorial Day**

Tiny Tales

ages 6 to 14 months

Wednesdays

11:00 AM–11:30 AM

Toddler Tales

ages 15 to 30 months

Wednesdays

10:15 AM–10:45 AM

Thursdays

10:15 AM–10:45 AM

11:00 AM–11:30 AM

**ALL SESSIONS AT THE
TABB LIBRARY**

Call 890-5110 for more information!

Next trip, book yourself into the public library

On a visit to any American town, that ubiquitous public facility can be of money-saving (and other)

assistance in a number of surprising ways *By Tom Hillegass*

We all like to fantasize about dream destinations from Aruba to Zanzibar, but in reality over 80 percent of us spend our vacations seeing the USA in our Chevrolet—or SUV. And where do we seek respite after a grueling day viewing purple mountain majesty? In a nearby all-American town, of course.

Next time you roll into a strange town for R&R (resting and regrouping), make the main public library your first stop. Head downtown and cruise around the courthouse or city hall—you can't miss it—watching for limestone walls and the lawn statue of a horseback hero. You are always welcome, so step right in. As your eyes adjust to the perpetual semi-dusk, the cool, quiet world of the library works wonders on your travel-frazzled nerves. And here are 15 things you can do there to further ease your travels:

✱ **Use a pay phone in a quiet location.** All public libraries have pay phones. Why? Because they often have residual kids left at closing time who need to phone home to be picked up.

✱ **Check your e-mail; send e-mail.** Most libraries now have public Internet access. Sign up as soon as you get there, as you might have to wait a bit. You'll need an e-mail service that appears as a Web page to do this. There are lots of

these, mostly free, like Juno and Hotmail.

✱ **Use a clean public restroom.** A wonderful thing for a stranger in town.

✱ **Find out what happened here.** Libraries always have a big section on local history—the Kiwanis Club often donates it. Peruse the stacks under Dewey Decimal 970.

✱ **Find out what's happening here.** Check the free tabloids and fliers just inside the front door. Also, see the local newspaper to check which movies are showing in town.

✱ **Find out what attractions are in the area.** The travel guide section of the library (Dewey Decimal 914 to 919) is always top-heavy with local information.

✱ **Plan your travels for the next few days.** Use the Internet to find attractions and accommodations in the next places on your itinerary (try www.switchboard.com or www.bigbook.com), then call ahead for reservations on that quiet library pay phone.

✱ **Read a good newspaper.** After a week or two of the Town Gazette, a big-city newspaper that covers more than fender-benders and bake sales is a real treat.

✱ **Look up phone numbers you forgot to bring with you.** No excuse now for

not calling Cousin Martha; look up her number in the library telephone books.

✱ **Rest your weary tootsies.** Libraries always have great, comfy chairs in their reading room. Take off your shoes when the librarian isn't looking.

✱ **Get cool (if warm); Get warm (if cool); stay dry (if raining).** A library is like a cave: same temperature year-round (but drier).

✱ **Fill your water bottle with cool, clean water.** Library water is pure (mostly), cool, and free.

✱ **Get recommendations on where to eat in town.** Librarians eat, too.

✱ **Wash your hands, comb your hair, check your makeup.** Do your bit to beautify America.

✱ **Make copies.** Libraries always have copy machines, and for a dime you can copy a page full of restaurant recommendations from *AF's Budget Travel* magazine.

So hit the local library whenever you travel and you'll come away convinced that thrifty old Ben (Franklin, that is) must have had the budget traveler in mind when he chartered the first lending library in Philadelphia in 1731.

This article originally appeared in Arthur Frommer's Budget Travel magazine, May/June 2001. Reprinted by permission.

Call us for information about our programs!

Adult Programs: Tabb — 890-5120 Yorktown — 890-5207

Children's Programs: Tabb — 890-5110 Yorktown — 890-3236

Talk to us!

We're always happy to hear from our patrons. If you have a suggestion or comment you'd like to make to the Library, place a note in the Suggestion Box at either library or use the form on the Library website. This is *your* library—let us know what you think of it!



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York County Public Library
Yorktown, VA

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday — Thursday	10 AM–9 PM
Friday	10 AM–6 PM
Saturday	10 AM–5 PM
Sunday	1 PM–5 PM

Visit the Library's website

<http://www.yorkcounty.gov/library/>

Enjoy story time at home...FREE!

DIAL-A-STORY 890-5111

Tabb Library

100 Long Green Boulevard
Yorktown, VA 23693
(at Hampton Hwy. & Long Green Blvd.)

Library Information	890-5100
Administration	890-5105
Circulation Desk	890-5130
Adult Services Desk	890-5120
Youth Services Desk	890-5110

Yorktown Library

8500 George Washington Mem. Highway
Yorktown, VA 23692
(at US Rt. 17 & Battle Rd.)

Library Information	890-3377
Circulation Desk	890-5209
Adult Services Desk	890-5207
Youth Services Desk	890-3236